(b) if so, the total cumulative strength of General Managers and above levels in ITDC as on date vis-a-vis the reserved positions for SC/ST/OBCs;

(c) the names and designation of such officials of general categories who are officiating against reserved vacancies of GM and above levels; and

(d) the steps taken to fill up the reserved vacancies by reverting officiating general category persons ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) The Govt. Directives on Reservations for and Employment of SCs/STs and OBCs are being followed in ITDC. The present cumulative strength of executives from the level of General Managers but below the Board level is 37 of which 4 are from SC category.

(c) and (d) In view of operational needs the following three officers of general category have been given officiating recently against the reserved vacancies of General Managers :

1. Ms Kusum Malik, General Manager
2. Shri Rajiv Makin, General Manager
3. Shri P. Ramachandaran, Executive Chef. Gr. I

It is a temporary arrangement to facilitate smooth operations in the units. Necessary action for filling up the reserved posts on regular basis would be initiated in due course.

Development of Konark

3088. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop konark as an International Tourist spot;

(b) if so, the infrastructural facilities proposed to be provided for tourists at Konark;

(c) whether any Master Plan has been drawn up for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) Identification and development of tourist spots is a continuous process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Department of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the States/Union Territory Governments, on the basis of specific project proposals received from them, their merits, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Construction of Houses and Flats In Cantonments

3089. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Floor Space Index with regard to construction of Houses and Flats as prevalent in various Defence cantonments in India, cantonment-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal by the Government to liberalise the FSI rules to solve the serious housing problems in several cantonments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Out of 62 Cantonments all over India, Floor Space Index (FSI) with regard to construction of houses have been laid down in the building bye-laws of 18 Cantonments the details of which are given in the *Statement* enclosed. No Floor Space Index restrictions have been imposed in the buildings bye-laws of the remaining 44 Cantonments Boards.

(b) to (d) A proposal to increase the Floor Space Index (FSI) by the Ministry has not received favourable response from the Army authorities, the Ministry of Environment & Forests and various Social Environmental Forums.

Statement

The details of Floor Space Index with regard to construction of houses and flats as prevalent in various Cantonments are as under :-

(A) SOUTHERN COMMAND

Aurangabad Ahmedabad Ahmednagar Ajmer Belgaum Cannanore Dehu Road Deolali Kamptee	GOC-in-C, Southern Command had imposed the following FSI restrictions in all these Cantonments in the year 1984:- Under Section 181(A) of the Cantonments Act, (a) In the Civil area notified under Section 434 of the Cantonments Act and bazar area notified under Rule 2(b) of the Cantonments Land Administration Rules 1937– 1

Kirkee	(b) In areas other than		
Nasirabad		(a) above	0.5
Pune			
Secunderabad			
St. Thomas Mt			
Wellington			

(b) In respect of following Boards FSI has been incorporated in their Building-Bye-laws.

CENTRAL COMMAND

Pachmarhi	(a)	in civil area notified under Section 43(A) of the Cantonments Act	1
	(b)	In Bungalow areas	0.5

EASTERN COMMAND

Jalpahar	(a)	In notified Civil are	1
	(b)	outside notified Civil area	0.5
Shillong	In respect of whole of the Cantonment area		–0.5

(c) No FSI restrictions have been imposed in the Building Bye-laws of the remaining 44 Cantonment Boards.

[Translation]

ADB Assistance

3090. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal of Asian Development Bank for conservation and development of 'Taj protected area' and providing community facilities is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of progress made in this regard;

(c) whether any technical study has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (e) According to the information provided by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Asian Development Bank has provided technical assistance amount of US $ 6,00,000 for comprehensive assessment of the current environmental situation in Agra, Mathura and Firozabad Districts, and to formulate a project for sustainable development of these districts. The project will have particular reference to environmental protection, energy conservation and economic and social impact. Asian Development Bank has appointed consultants under the technical assistance. Further course of action with reference to Asian Development Bank related loan assistance will depend on the reports arising out of the above technical assistance.

[English]

N.H. Chennai–Madurai

3091. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the present status of four lane National Highway between Chennai-Madurai ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : Four lane pavement width exists from Km. 0/0 to 67/0 (Chennai-Pukkathurai) on N.H.–45. Further Government of India has proposal for 4-laning of NH-45 from Km. 67/0 to 122/0 (Pukkathurai-Tindivanam) on B.O.T. basis and proposals for prequalification of suitable firms for the same have already been invited. In addition, 4-lanning of NH-45 from Km. 122/0 to 325/0 (Tindivanam-Trichy Bypass end) and from Trichy By-pass to Madurai through the State M.D.R. Route have been proposed to be taken up in two packages respectively under World Bank-III loan Assistance.

Bypass in Karnal

3092. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 224 dated February 24, 1997 regarding Bypass in Karnal and state :

(a) whether the said bypass has become a sector road consequent to the coming up HUDA colonies on both sides of the bypass;

(b) whether the said bypass has become congested and accident prone;

(c) if so, the steps taken to construct an overbridge over the GT Road or over the bypass for smooth flow of traffic which is increasing day in and day out; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Karnal bypass exists but is not part of sector roads of HUDA.

(b) Congestion shall be reduced after completion of